

121D(CN.E)
1-Stop
5-30-03**OFFICIAL**Response Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
Expedited Procedure
Examining Group 2815
PATENT
Docket No. 150.00640102**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Eugene P. Marsh)	Group Art Unit:	2815
)		
Serial No.: 09/942,200)	Examiner:	J. Nguyen
Confirmation No.: 8194)		
)		
Filed: 29 August 2001)		
)		
For:		<u>DIFFUSION BARRIER LAYERS AND METHODS OF FORMING SAME</u>	

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR §1.116

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action of 18 March 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Specification

Please delete the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 6, and replace it with the following new paragraph. Per 37 C.F.R. § 1.121, this paragraph is also shown in Appendix A with notations to indicate the changes made.

-- Methods of forming the co-deposited platinum:ruthenium alloy layer 14 are described in co-pending patent application entitled "Method for Producing Low Carbon/Oxygen Conductive Layers" having U.S. Serial No. 09/146,297, filed September 3, 1998, and issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,284,655 B1. For example, one such method includes forming a substantially carbon- and oxygen-free conductive layer in an oxidizing atmosphere in the presence of an